

Ladies and Gentleman, Regulators at the FCC,

Sattelite Radio, (E.G. XM, and Sirius) are Radio- like services offered on a "subscription only" basis. This is to say; the services offered on Sattelite radio are not broadcast for any old Tom Dick or Harry to receive on almost *any* radio equipment (Amateur, Commercially constructed, etc) with whatever antenna can be scrapped together. It is NOT SOLELY supported by advertising, which is where a MAJOR difference becomes readily apparent.

Comparison:

I know that the HQ for the FCC is in Pennsylvania. Let us suppose, for a minute, a person had to make a trip to Washington DC for any given reason. This hypothetical person has a vehicle equipped with only a standard AM/ FM radio, This person needs traffic or weatherd info right now, and is approaching at 70 MPH on I-95 southbound. In this example, it would take the driver an extended period of time to get this needed information prior to running into the accident 5 miles ahead, and being tied up waiting in traffic for a 0900 hour meeting.

Why? Because this driver had to sit and listen to extensive advertising, talk, more advertising, and even more congestion offered as "programming" by the broadcast station. Needless to say, this person arrives late for the meeting, and is obviously perturbed by the wait, one that could have been easliy avoided.

Example #2: This is a person who is driving a vehicle equipped with (sub example) XM Sattelite Radio. Instead of tuning in the extraneous talk and other "services" offered on broadcast, the driver in this example pushes one single button. They hear about not *just* the accident 5 miles ahead, but which other routes are flowing more freely, the severe thunderstorm approaching from the west, and the forecast for the rest of the day. All in about 5 minutes time, enough to avoid the wreck *and* traffic jam , *and* with enough time to get to safety *before* the storm strikes.

If you Ladies and Gentleman wish to do so, you will notice I am an Amateur Radio Operator, licensed by yourselves. I also operate a Commercial Motor Vehicle (in lay terms, a Semi).

I have XM Sattelite radio in my Truck, as well as 2 meters and the obligatory CB which I despise. I have found XM and the new traffic and weather channels to be a boon for me to avoid these otherwise common situations in America's larger cities. I, as an over the road driver, used to not always know where to turn for good, accurate, dependable, and fast traffic and weather information for cities *like* DC or Houston.

I still utilize NOAA weather radio for weather info in rural areas, and augment that info with the Weather Channel on XM.

As I peviously stated, XM and Sirius are subscription- based Sattelite digital radio services, and as such, are going to tend to listen to their clentele, unlike broadcast.

It is my opinion that broadcasters have made XM possible, and viable, simply by cluttering up not only the airwaves, but their own broadcasts with advertisements and needless, mindless, useless, and sometimes offensive blather. The upsurge in Xm and services like it prove that we, the people, no longer wish to put up with the garbage that these people have been shoving in our faces for entirely too long.

In short, if I wanted to listen the the garbage on broadcast radio, I'd tune it in. I got XM because I don't want to hear those idiots, and I don't need those idiots.

In conclusion, I ask that you leave XM and Sirius alone, We, the people, are highly content with it the way it is, and wish the broadcasters would, for once, just shut up.

Thanks for your time,

James Nokes (kd5ful)

Dayton, TN USA